

1961

**BOROUGH**  
**OF**  
**CHIPPENHAM**





BOROUGH

of

C H I P P E N H A M

THE

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

M E D I C A L O F F I C E R O F H E A L T H

and

S E N I O R P U B L I C H E A L T H I N S P E C T O R

for the

YEAR ENDING 31st. DECEMBER,

1961



(a) MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

C.L. Broomhead, T.D., M.D., B. Ch. D.P.H.

Official address:- 5, High Street, Chippenham.  
Tel: Chippenham 2821 Extn.49

also Medical Officer of Health for the Boroughs of Calne and Malmesbury and the Rural Districts of Calne & Chippenham and Malmesbury. Assistant County Medical Officer and School Medical Officer, Wiltshire County Council.

(b) SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR.

S.F. French, Sanitary Inspector's Cert. R.S.I.  
Meat & Other Foods Inspector's Cert. R.S.I.

(c) ADDITIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR.

C.W. Pitman, Cert. S.I.B.  
Meat and Other Foods Inspector's Cert. R.S.I.  
Smoke Inspector's Diploma of the Royal Society of Health.


(d) SECRETARY/CLERK TO THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

S.G.V. Williamson, Cert. R.I.P.H.H.

(e) The Committee of the Borough Council dealing directly with Public Health matters is:-

The Public Health & Highways Committee

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The Mayor, Aldermen & Councillors,  
Chippenham Borough Council.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies & Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report for the year 1961 in accordance with Regulation 15(5) of the Public Health Officers Regulations, 1959.

Copies of the Report are required by the Ministry of Health, Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries & Food, the Ministry of Housing & Local Government and H.M. Inspector of Factories; a copy is also sent to the County Medical Officer of Health.

The report of the Senior Public Health Inspector, Mr. S.F. French is incorporated and provides much detailed information on environmental public health.

I am grateful to Mr. French and the Staff of the Council for their co-operation and assistance, during the year under review.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

C.L. Broomhead,

Medical Officer of Health.





It is gratifying to note that, apart from one death due to Pulmonary Tuberculosis, infectious diseases, as usual made no contribution to the death rate. This fortunate state of affairs, should not be viewed with complacency as the increasing population is particularly vulnerable to imported virulent infectious disease from countries within the Commonwealth who do not possess the effective health service we enjoy here.

The outbreaks of Smallpox imported from Pakistan to the Midlands and Wales towards the end of the year, illustrate this point and underline the need for careful control and medical examination, particularly at Airfields of all immigrants from infected areas. The real solution in the eradication of Smallpox however, is to control it in the same fashion in the Commonwealth as it is controlled in this Country.

The control of Smallpox requires, inter alia, vaccination and segregation of close contacts of the actual case and vaccination of those at special risk. It is not accepted by the Ministry of Health as good policy to introduce mass vaccination of the public for a variety of reasons, not the least being the need to conserve vaccine, at the onset of an outbreak, for the actual contacts quoted above.

There are also certain complications of vaccination to be considered, particularly when given to an adolescent or adult who has not been previously vaccinated during infancy.

Complications range from a severe reaction which may necessitate time off from work and a stay in bed, to serious generalised vaccinia and encephalitis or inflammation of the brain and subsequent death.

There was only one case of Poliomyelitis notified during the year under review. The crippling deformities of this dangerous infection and the permanent damage to the nervous system it causes should, as the immune state of the population rises, become things of the past.

Provided a case of tuberculosis is treated in the early stage of the disease, the outlook is nowadays quite hopeful. It is important also that patients suffering from this infection in its early stage should seek treatment as soon as possible, in order that infectivity can be rapidly reduced thereby limiting spread of the disease.

Nevertheless there is a proportion of the public suffering from Pulmonary Tuberculosis who do not seek advice or treatment, and it is they who constitute the unknown pool of infection. To protect school children, they are offered a tuberculin test and subsequent B.C.G. vaccination if necessary before they leave school and mix more closely with the adult population.

The campaign for the eradication of bovine tuberculosis is now completed, and a further source of anxiety removed. In 1921, in the country as a whole over eleven hundred children under five years of age died of abdominal tuberculosis, contracted by drinking infected cows milk in the raw state.

Cancer and Coronary Disease remain the two principle causes of death and it is gratifying that at last the Government has accepted the fact that there is a connection between cigarette smoking and lung cancer and supported a campaign to prevent the habit, particularly in the young.

One of the principal activities of Local Health



Authorities to prevent disease are their arrangements for vaccination and immunisation against Smallpox and Diphtheria. To these have been added Whooping Cough, Tetanus and Polio-myelitis. It should be appreciated however, that the success of these procedures may give a false sense of security and it is important that parents should avail themselves fully of the facilities provided and see to it that their children are fully protected at all times.

During the year, the formation of the North West Wilts Water Board and the impending handing over of the Councils Water Works, occasioned considerable discussion and created an anomaly which is quoted in detail on pages 16 and 17.

Regular, routine samples of the raw water from the boreholes and the treated water in supply are taken for bacteriological examination and close liaison is kept with the Borough Engineer who is immediately informed of the results of these investigations.

An estimation of the free chlorine available in the treated water as it leaves the reservoirs and from the supply mains is also made regularly.

The raw water from the boreholes is sampled twice weekly and 163 samples of the treated water were examined bacteriologically during the year.

In conclusion, to maintain the present excellent state of the public health, the continued provision and distribution of clean food, a pure and wholesome water supply, adequate housing, clean air and efficient sewage disposal are still essentials.

On the following pages are the statistics on birth and death rates, the causes of death and the prevalence of infectious disease notified. The report of the Senior Public Health Inspector, Mr. S.F. French, includes comment on the inspections carried out and samples taken for examination at the Public Health Laboratory during the year; an invaluable contribution to the maintenance and improvement of the public health.



Area (in acres) . . . . .	1843
Population . . . . .	17,590
Number of houses (end of 1961 according to the Rate Book) . . . . .	5528
Rateable value .(31.12.61). . . . .	£252,881
Sum represented by Penny Rate (estimated) . . . . .	£1036

VITAL STATISTICS.LIVE BIRTHS

	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	153	149	302
Illegitimate	4	5	9
Total	157	154	311

Crude Birth Rate for the Borough . . . . .	17.6
per 1000 of the population	
Adjusted Birth Rate for the Borough . . . . .	17.6
per 1000 of the population	
Comparative Rate for England & Wales . . . . .	17.4
per 1000 of the population.	

Members of the Armed Forces stationed in the area are included in the population figure shown under the heading "General Statistics". To make an approximate allowance for the way in which the sex and age distribution of the local population differs from England & Wales as a whole, the crude birth rate and death rate for the Borough are to be multiplied by a "comparability factor" given by the Registrar General. The above statistics have been so corrected.

STILL BIRTHS

Eight still births were recorded during 1961. The rate per 1000 total live and still births is 25.0. The comparative rate for England & Wales for 1961 is given by the Registrar General as 18.7

INFANT MORTALITY.

Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age:

	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	7	2	9
Illegitimate	-	-	-
Total	7	2	9

four of these children died during their first week of life.

Rate per 1000 live births. . . . .	28.9
Comparative rate for England & Wales . . . . .	21.4





DEATHS

6

Deaths recorded in the Borough during 1961 were as follows:-

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
	108	95	203
Crude death rate for the Borough . . . . .			11.2
per 1000 of the population.			
Adjusted death rate for the Borough . . . . .			9.1
per 1000 of the population.			
Comparative rate for England & Wales. . . . .			12.0
per 1000 of the population.			

A ruling made by the Registrar General has the effect of excluding from the statistics under this heading, deaths occurring in hospitals for the chronic sick, in all cases where the deceased had been a patient for less than six months. St. Andrews Hospital and Frogwell Hospital have been designated as hospitals for the Chronic Sick.

ANALYSIS OF CAUSES OF DEATH.

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Tuberculosis, respiratory	1	-	1
Tuberculosis, other	-	-	-
Syphilitic disease	-	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	-	-	-
Meningococcal infections	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-
Measles	-	-	-
Other infective and parasitic diseases	-	-	-
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	6	-	6
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	7	1	8
Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	5	5
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	-	-
Other malignant & lymphatic neoplasms	11	8	19
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	-	-	-
Diabetes	1	2	3
Vascular lesions of nervous system	9	13	22
Coronary disease angina	25	7	32
Hypertension with heart disease	-	4	4
Other heart diseases	15	30	45
Other circulatory disease	9	2	11
Influenza	3	1	4
Pneumonia	4	3	7
Bronchitis	3	-	3
Other diseases of respiratory system	1	-	1
Ulcer of stomach & duodenum	1	1	2
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	1	-	1
Nephritis and nephrosis	-	1	1
Hyperplasia of prostate	-	-	-
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	-	-
Congenital malformations	2	-	2
Other defined and illdefined diseases	8	12	20
Motor vehicle accidents	1	1	2
All other accidents	-	4	4
Suicide	-	-	-
Homicide and operations of war	-	-	-
Total:	108	95	203

The total number of deaths is greater than in 1960 (172). There is an increase in the number of deaths from Lung Cancer (1960 - 5) and Other Forms of Cancer (1960 - 14). There is also an increase in the number of deaths from Coronary Disease (1960 - 24); there was only one death from infectious disease.





The following table shows the infectious diseases (other than Tuberculosis) notified during 1961, together with comparative figures for previous years since 1958.

DISEASE	1958		1959		1960		1961	
	a	b	a	b	a	b	a	b
Scarlet Fever	11	11	31	31	34	34	6	6
Whooping Cough	9	9	9	9	4	4	2	2
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles	27	27	399	399	2	2	292	292
Ac. Poliomyelitis (Paralytic)	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Ac. Poliomyelitis (Non-Paralytic)	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	34	26	1	1	2	2	7	7
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	12	12	27	27	18	18	14	14
Smallpox	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Paratyphoid Fever	-	-	1	1	-	-	1	1
Typhoid	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	20	6	2	-	-	4	4	-
Erysipelas	4	4	1	1	-	-	-	-
Pneumonia	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cerebro-Spinal Fever.	1	-	1	1	1	1	-	-
TOTAL:-	121	98	472	470	61	61	327	323

a = Numbers originally notified; b= Final Numbers after correction.

An outbreak of Measles occurred during May, June and July. Fifty percent of the cases were school children.

Seven cases of Dysentery were notified and confirmed, of that number, two were relapse cases.

The case of Para-typhoid included in the above table, was in respect of a 16 year male. Bacteriological investigation confirmed Salmonella Paratyphi "B" Phage type Beccles present in a specimen of faeces. Investigation of family contacts and all other epidemiological factors did not bring to light secondary cases. The source of infection was not established.

The case of Poliomyelitis shown above was in respect of a 20 year male. The patient was Isolated in Hospital. Bacteriological investigation confirmed Polio Virus type 1 in a specimen of faeces. The patient developed some paralysis of his abdominal muscles and weakness of the left hip flexors. On discharge hospital he had a degree of residual paresis of the abdominal muscles. No secondary cases were ascertained, and the source of infection was not established.

In addition to the cases of Notifiable Infectious Disease included in the above table, a case of Salmonella Panama and a case of Salmonella enteritidis were ascertained, subsequent bacteriological and detailed environmental investigations failed to establish secondary cases or the source of infection.

Legislation The Public Health Act, 1961 contains some important provisions concerning Notifiable Infectious Diseases, particularly the liability of Local Authorities to compensate a person required to discontinue his work with a view to preventing the spread of infection. In this connection, the provisions of Part III of the Public Health Act, 1961 do not apply to diseases made notifiable by virtue of Regulations made by the Minister under Section 143 of the Public Health Act, 1936. Inter alia, Poliomyelitis, unfortunately, is not a notifiable disease, and statutory action could not be taken under Section 41 of the Public Health Act, 1961.



Seven cases of Tuberculosis were notified and confirmed by the Chest Physician during 1961. One person, not previously notified as suffering from Tuberculosis, died during the year. Details of age and sex of new cases and mortality during 1961 are as follows:-

<u>Age Periods</u>	<u>New Cases</u>		<u>Mortality</u>			
	<u>Resp. Non-Resp.</u>		<u>Resp. Non-Resp.</u>		<u>Resp. Non-Resp.</u>	
	<u>M. F.</u>	<u>M. F.</u>	<u>M. F.</u>	<u>M. F.</u>	<u>M. F.</u>	<u>F.</u>
0						
1	1					
5						
15	1	1		1		
25		1				
35						
45				1		
55				1		
65 upwards.	1					
Totals	3	2	2	1	-	-

In addition to the new cases notified as primary cases of tuberculosis during the year, a certain proportion of tuberculous persons either move into the town or move out. According to the Register of Tuberculous Persons, the following notified and confirmed cases were living in Chippenham at the end of 1961.

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Pulmonary	38	23	61
Non-Pulmonary	5	23	28
Total	43	46	89

The following table shows the total number of cases of Tuberculosis on the Register each year since 1953.

	<u>Pulmonary</u>	<u>Non-Pulmonary</u>	<u>Total</u>
1953	59	24	83
1954	66	25	91
1955	74	26	100
1956	74	28	102
1957	70	28	98
1958	73	26	99
1959	66	29	95
1960	62	26	88

The following table shows new cases of Tuberculosis (other than transfers) notified since 1953.

1953	8	1	9
1954	8	-	8
1955	4	2	6
1956	5	2	7
1957	6	-	6
1958	6	-	6
1959	3	2	5
1960	5	1	6

Although there has been little change in the number of new cases of tuberculosis notified each year, a slight reduction in the total number of cases on the Register has occurred since 1956.



During the year, a total of thirty nine applications for housing accommodation were reviewed on medical grounds, with the following results:-

Applications withdrawn. . . . .	1
Applicants left Chippenham . . . . .	1
Applicants deceased . . . . .	1
Applicants rehoused . . . . .	19
Applicants still waiting rehousing . . .	17

In addition to the review of housing applications on medical grounds and the award of medical points under the Council's Points Scheme, Applicants found to be suffering from Tuberculosis or other grave physical disability, are treated as high medical priority cases, and for this purpose the Council earmarks five properties out of every one hundred becoming available for letting. During the year two such cases were investigated and rehoused by the Council. These cases have been included in the total of 19 shown against the heading "Applicants rehoused".

The following detail has been compiled by the Council's Housing Manager.

Summary of lettings for the year ended 31st. December, 1961.

		<u>Houses</u>	
<u>New Properties</u>			
Applicants from waiting list including aged persons' bungalows.	22		
Tenants from married quarters	9		
Tenants from existing houses	9		
Wilts. Standing Joint Committee	1		
Staff	1	42	
<u>Existing Properties.</u>			
Applicants from waiting list including aged persons' bungalows.	22		
Tenants from married quarters	14		
Employees No.10 M.U. Hullavington	1		
Admiralty employees	9		
Staff	2		
Mid-Wilts. Hospital Management Committee	1	49	
<u>Married Quarters</u>			
Applicants from waiting list	39	39	
		<u>130</u>	
<u>Number of properties at 31st. December, 1961.</u>			
Houses	1,498		
Flats	84		
Aged persons' bungalows	95		
Married quarters	440		
	<u>2,117</u>		
Caravan Sites	21		
Garages	233		





A serious and immediate shortage of water from the Chippenham Borehole sources on the 25th November, 1961 necessitated the installation of pumping and filtering plant by the Royal Engineers in case it became necessary to use water from the River Avon, after further treatment, by superchlorination, as a temporary measure.

Fortunately by cutting down the demand on the boreholes and by requesting adjacent Local Authorities to find alternative sources to meet their own requirements, it was not necessary to use the River Avon as a source after all.

The proposed use of the River Avon as a source of public supply, caused considerable concern to the Council and other Local District Councils receiving a water supply from the Chippenham Bores.

Close co-operation with the Medical Officers of Health of the Authorities concerned was maintained, and the Medical Officer at Westinghouse Works was also informed of the proposal.

The Ministry of Health, the County Medical Officer, the Bristol Avon River Board, the Mid Wilts. Hospital Management Committee and the Ministry of Housing and Local Government were also advised.

Arrangements were made to hold daily staff conferences with the Clerks and Engineers of the Borough and Rural District Councils with the Medical Officer of Health present in order that there should be the fullest co-operation and exchange of information at all times during the crisis.

Extracts from a report dated 5th. February, 1962 to the Public Health Committee of the Council are relevant and should be noted:-

"Although rivers are used as a source of water supply both in this country and other parts of the world, nevertheless, there are certain disadvantages.

The River Board deals with sources of pollution and is able to secure their eventual removal, but the detection of all the sources of pollution in a river of any length is difficult, intermittent or continuous contamination may be overlooked.

Modern bacterial methods of sewage disposal, although they produce an acceptable effluent according to recognised standards, do not remove a large proportion of the bacteria in the sewage. When everything possible has been done to secure the efficient purification of waste products, rivers receiving sewage and trade effluents can only be regarded as possible sources of water supply, when no purer or adequate source is reasonably available.

In periods of heavy rain, the River Avon rises rapidly and at the height of a flood, the water will contain all the washings from the ditches discharging into the river, storm water overflows from sewage disposal works and much of the mud from the bed of the river. Conditions such as these are not infrequent and add to the difficulties of treatment; sufficient storage is therefore necessary to allow the distribution of purified water during flood conditions.





The physical and bacteriological characteristics of the River Avon and the Chippenham Boreholes are very different; river water requires much more treatment and control if it is to be accepted as a safe source of water supply for domestic use.

Experience has shown that the installation of the necessary plant for the treatment of river water could not be hurried if a safe supply was to be delivered to the public, and it is gratifying that it was unnecessary to use the River Avon as an emergency source after all.

Water from the Chippenham boreholes is nearly always sterile even in its raw state, and requires little treatment or storage before speedy distribution to the public.

Water from the River Avon, on the other hand, requires a complicated process of filtration and chlorination, careful and detailed supervision at all times of the treatment plant, more frequent chemical and bacteriological examinations of the treated water and a longer period of contact time of the sterilising agent. Finally, the cost of treatment, storage and control is greater than the expenditure on the treatment of a borehole source, and the frequent chemical and bacteriological examinations required may necessitate the establishment of a Laboratory and staff.

Extraction of river water near the existing works is undesirable. There is a high concentration of polluting matter in this vicinity. A site further upstream, as was used in the recent experiments, should be sought.

Owing to the fact that increased storage will be necessary, consideration should be given to the construction of a completely new Water Works well above the town, if the river is eventually to be used to supplement the water source.

Increasing demand on the Chippenham boreholes, due to a steadily rising public consumption, together with a probable recurring diminishing yield from the boreholes at certain times of the year, will make the construction of new water works, with the necessary storage, a matter of urgency.

In my opinion, the River Avon should not be used as a source of water for public consumption, unless no other sources are available, and then only after suitable filters and treatment plant have been installed and adequate reservoirs constructed".

The following additional information on the Council's water undertakings has been supplied by the Borough Engineer's Department.

1. The present sources used by this Council for water supply purposes are those sited at Ivyfields and Westmead Waterworks. At Ivyfields, water is obtained from three boreholes of various depths of approximately 150 feet to 180 feet, and at Westmead from one borehole 187 feet deep, all in Oolitic Limestone.
2. The total yield of the sources mentioned above is set at a minimum of 3,000,000 gallons per day. When the underground storage of these sources is full, this yield may be as much as 4,000,000 gallons per day or more.
3. Chlorination is undertaken with a view to obtaining a residual in the water leaving the pumping stations of 1.4 parts per million to obtain 0.2 parts per million at the consumers point of delivery.
4. Bulk supplies are given to the undermentioned adjacent authorities and the figures quoted are the average daily



supply with maximum daily supplies during 1961

	<u>Daily Average</u>	<u>Maximum Daily Average</u>
Calne & Chippenham RDC	795,000	1,160,000
Trowbridge & Melksham Water Board	234,000	285,000
Bradford Melksham & District R.D.C.	165,000	256,000
Government Departments at Hawthorn	198,000	558,000
Government Temporary Housing	230,000	350,000

5. Private supplies are existing at the following premises:-

Messrs. Nesmilk Ltd.  
The Wiltshire Bacon Co.Ltd.  
The Chippenham Sanitary Laundry Co.Ltd.

To the best of my knowledge these supplies are not used for drinking purposes and are devoted to industrial use.

6. As I have already advised the Council and others concerned, additional sources of supply should be obtained to augment the Council's existing sources mentioned above which I consider to be inadequate to meet the expected demand of supply even before 1970 mentioned in the Ministry's review of 1947. My reports of March, 1955 and late 1959 state my views clearly and are already in the hands of the Ministry of Housing and Local Government.

7. The development of the Waterworks as set out in my report of 1955 is still being pursued by the Council.

The new 1,000,000 gallons service reservoir at Hardenhuish was commissioned on the 12th. June, 1961.

The new pumping plant for the Ivyfields Pumping Station was delivered during the year.

The reconstruction of the Pumping Station Buildings and the extension of the filtration plant was commenced during the Summer.

#### General Statistics

Population (end June 1961)	17,590
Private houses owned by Service Departments	Nil
Total houses	5,528
Houses supplied with water by the Borough Council	5,528
Houses supplied with water by other Authorities	Nil
Total houses supplied with water	5,528
Estimated population supplied	100%
The water is not Plumbo solvent,"	



The following detail concerning Sewage Disposal and Refuse Disposal has been furnished by the Borough Engineer's Department.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL

1. Two Sewage Disposal Works serve the Borough of Chippenham and some of the fringe area and are situated at Patterdown and Westmead.
2. The preliminary report of the Consulting Engineers, Messrs. Harvey, McGill & Hayes on sewers and sewage disposal facilities of the town has been received, and they are making preparations for the work to commence in the North Western Section of the Borough chiefly on surface water drainage to relieve the foul drains.
3. The effluents of both sewage disposal works are discharged to the River Avon and I attach copies of the chemical analyses recently carried out by the River Board. These effluents are considered unsatisfactory as the Works are grossly overloaded. Despite this deterioration of the effluent has been checked by improved handling of the works, and a less unsatisfactory effluent is now being discharged into the river.

REFUSE DISPOSAL

Refuse collection in the Borough continues to be carried out by two covered vehicles. The collection of house and trade refuse is carried out weekly and additional collections are made from premises such as cafes, food shops etc., where food is being handled. This work is under continuous review to reRoute collections to deal with new houses erected in the Borough.

Refuse is disposed of by controlled tipping at two sites and disused river channels and low lying land at Westmead and the old Canal at Englands. At both tips the handling and covering of refuse is done mechanically and is proving satisfactory.

Full use is made of insecticides in refuse collection and as tip dressing and eradication of rats is frequently done under the supervision of the Senior Public Health Inspector.

Periodical inspections are made of dustbins used by householders and notices are served on those found to be unsuitable. This method has proved satisfactory and the Council makes available dustbins at cost price to householders in the Town.





Certificate of Analysis

14

Waterfall & O'Brien,  
The Laboratory,  
4, Queen Square,  
Bristol, 1.

27th. April, 1961.

Of a sample of Effluent (Sample No. 1265) from Patterdown,  
Chippenham. Sewage Treatment Works. Sampled by D.J. Parker  
on Tuesday 18th. April, 1961 at 14.20 B.S.T. Recent dry weather.

Sent by Bristol Avon River Board, 18, Bennett Street, Bath.

Appearance: Grey - brown, turbid. Darker, fine sediment.  
Sewage smell.

Reaction: pH 7.2

Parts per million

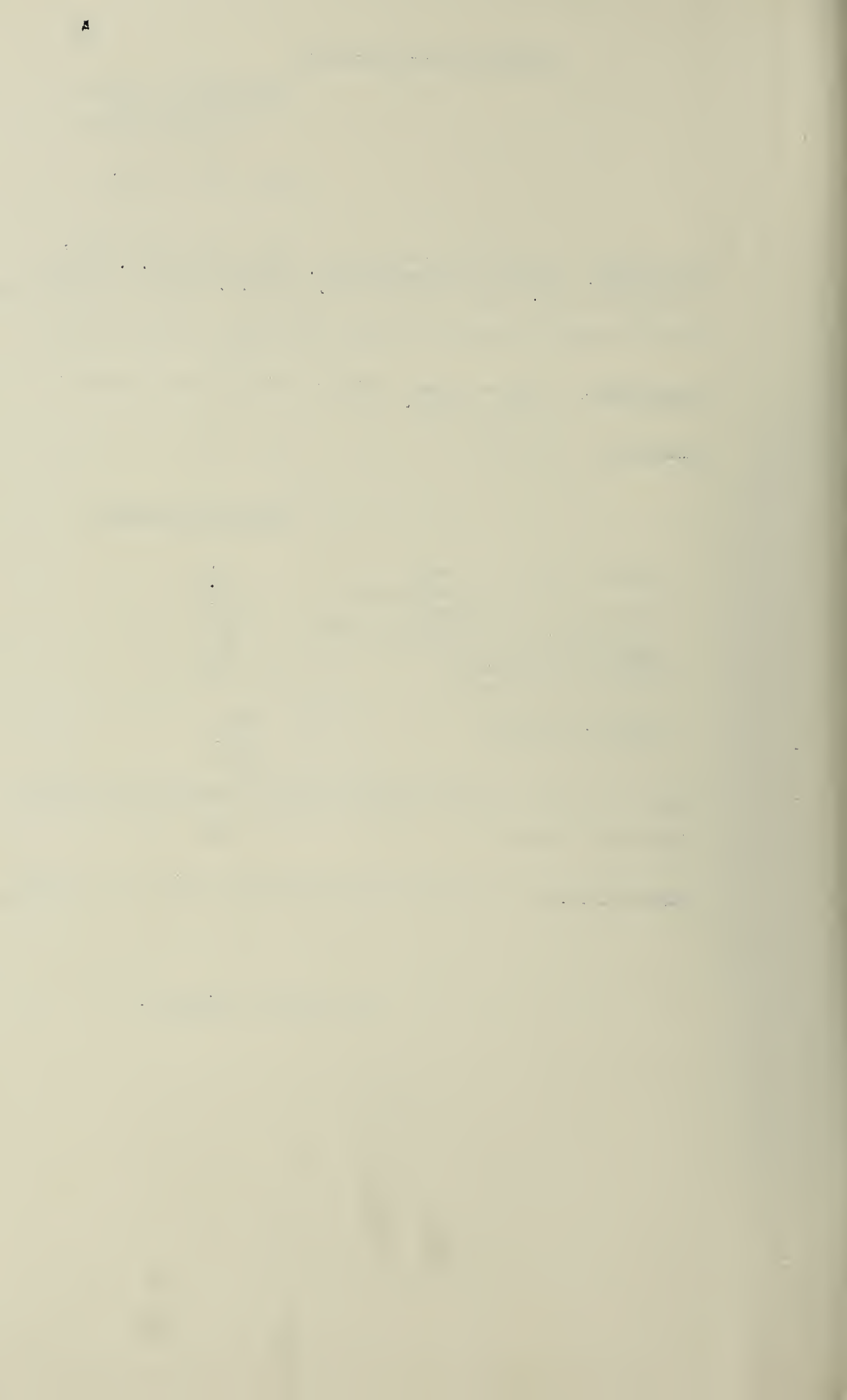
Ammonia ( as N )	Free	16.5
	Albuminoid	1.1
Chlorine (as Chlorides)		51.5
equivalent to Sodium Chloride		85
Oxygen absorbed ( 4 hrs)		14.4
Nitrogen in Nitrite		1.4
Nitrogen in Nitrate		9
Dissolved Solids		692
Suspended Solids		<u>31</u>
		723

Dissolved Oxygen absorbed after 5 days' incubation (B.O.D) 22

"Impurity" figure 11½

Stability Test No change when incubated at 37° C for 48 hrs.

Waterfall & O'Brien.





Copy.Certificate of Analysis.

Waterfall & O'Brien,  
The Laboratory,  
4, Queen Square,  
Bristol. 1.

13th April, 1961.

Of a sample of EFFLUENT (Sample No. 1256) from Chippenham  
(Westmead) Sewage Works Humus Tank. Flow at time of  
sampling 1,400,000 g.p.d. plus storm water flow  
100,000 g.p.d. Taken by G. H. Murrell on Wednesday,  
5th April, 1961; weather:- showery after two days rain.  
Time 11.35 hrs.

Sent by Bristol Avon River Board, 18, Bennett Street, Bath, Somerset.

Appearance: Pale grey/brown colour. Turbid. Darker coloured  
sediment. Strong earthy smell.

Reaction: pH 7.6.

Parts per Million

Ammonia ( as N)	
Free	2.1
Albuminoid	1.5
Chlorine (as Chlorides)	52
equivalent to Sodium Chloride	86
Oxygen absorbed ( 4 hrs.)	10.9
Nitrogen in Nitrite	1
Nitrogen in Nitrate	3
Dissolved Solids	520
Suspended Solids	47
	<hr/> 567

Dissolved Oxygen absorbed after 5 days' incubation (B.O.D.) 32

"Impurity" figure 13

Stability Test No change when incubated at 37° C. for 48 hours.

Waterfall & O'Brien.



As a Medical Officer of Health, I have for some time, expressed concern as to the future relationship of the medical advisor to a Local Authority when a Water Board takes over the Local Authority's Water Undertakings.

A Medical Officer of Health by virtue of his office has access to the deliberations of the appropriate Committee dealing with water supplies, but is denied similar access to the newly formed Water Boards. He cannot therefore advise on any new schemes or the health of personnel employed by the Water Boards in their various activities.

This unsatisfactory state of affairs has been explained to the Public Health Committees of the Malmesbury Rural District Council, the Calne & Chippenham Rural District Council and the Chippenham Borough Council.

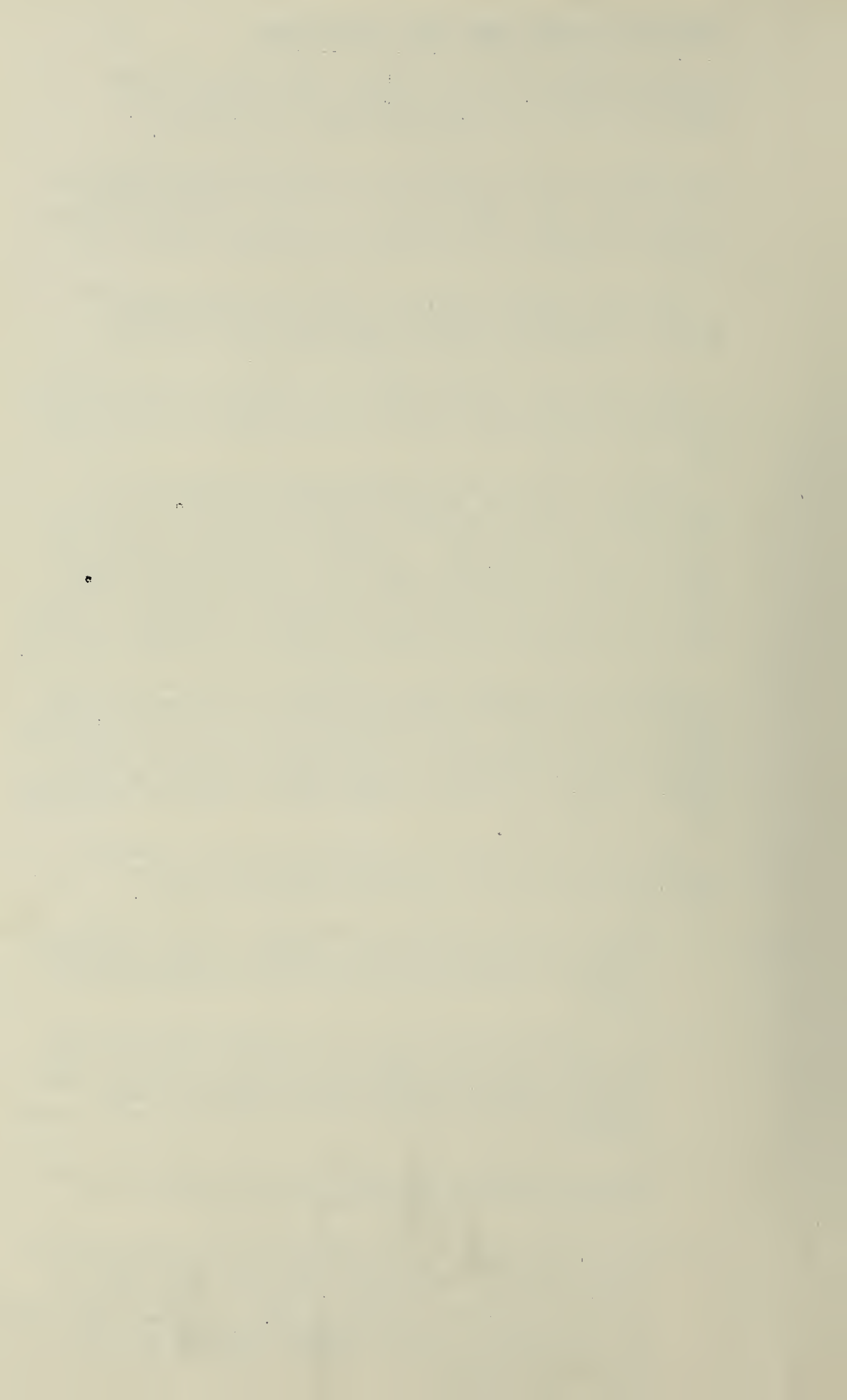
Representatives on the Shadow Board from the above District Councils have been briefed with the following in the hope that a satisfactory solution can be negotiated with the North West Wilts Water Board.

"Samples of water from the mains and from the reservoirs are regularly taken by the Public Health Inspectors as confirmation that the methods of production and sterilising the water are satisfactory; a sterile specimen with some free chlorine is the objective. It should be clearly understood however that this sterile water, with free chlorine, is put into the mains at the Water Works, and unless the methods of production and sterilisation are completely adequate to attain the high standard at all times, no amount of sampling from the mains and reservoirs will serve to safeguard the public health.

Unless separate services of a Medical Officer of Health are provided for the Board, representatives of the Council on the Board may wish, when the matter is reached on the Board's next agenda, to ask for an agreed procedure as between the Board and the constituent authorities to the standard required by the Medical Officer of Health to ensure that district councils are enabled properly to carry out their duties contained in Section III of the 1936 Act.

The particular points to be covered in such a scheme to ensure the procedure to be followed, and to define the responsibilities of the respective authorities are:-

- (1) When the Water Board is established, will the Water Board or the Local District Council, be the responsible authority for the periodic routine bacteriological and chemical investigations of the water supplied to the public.
- (2) If the Water Board is to be the responsible Authority, who will advise the Water Board on the results of the bacteriological and chemical examinations, as the Local District Councils are at present advised by their Medical Officer, and who will take the necessary routine samples?
- (3) When established, will the Water Board advise the Local District Councils on further projects aimed at the development of additional water sources?
- (4) The Laboratories of the Public Health Laboratory Service receive and report on all samples of water taken for bacteriological examination. Will the Water Board use these facilities, or establish central laboratories for this particular routine enquiry. If these laboratories are established, will the Medical Officers of Health of the District Councils receive copies of the Laboratory reports?





At the time of writing this report, 10th. May, 1962, no communication has been received from the North West Wilts. Water Board, nor to my knowledge, have the District Councils concerned received any further information.

The following extract from the Annual Report of the Chief Medical Officer to the Ministry of Health for the year 1957 should be noted.

#### "Water Supplies

In accordance with modern policy, water undertakings, both private and public, are being subjected to regional grouping, where necessary, with consequent changes in staffing and management. It may, therefore, be of advantage to remind medical officers of health and public health inspectors that the Memorandum on safeguards to be adopted in day-to-day administration of Water Undertakings (Memo 221), issued by the Ministry of Health in 1939, and revised in 1948, has not in any way been affected by these events.

While the Memorandum provides a useful and practical code of hygiene for water engineers and managers, it also indicates clearly that there is an overall medical responsibility which does not begin "at the tap", but extends from the actual source, whether above or below ground, to the consumer. All water undertakings, therefore, should ensure that they have access to competent medical advice, at all times; and in the case of a local authority undertaking, the appropriate committee should, in the interests both of the community and of itself, see that the medical officer of health has an unrestricted interest in the health aspects of water production.

Copies of bacteriological and chemical reports on the raw and treated water should regularly be sent to the Health Dept; the health of workmen employed on gathering-grounds, in wells or at boreholes and at pumping stations and treatment plants should be subjected to constant medical supervision, as indicated in paragraph 5 of Memo 221, if accidental bacterial infections are to be avoided".

#### VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION

I am indebted to Dr. C.D.L. Lycett, County Medical Officer of Health for the following information:-

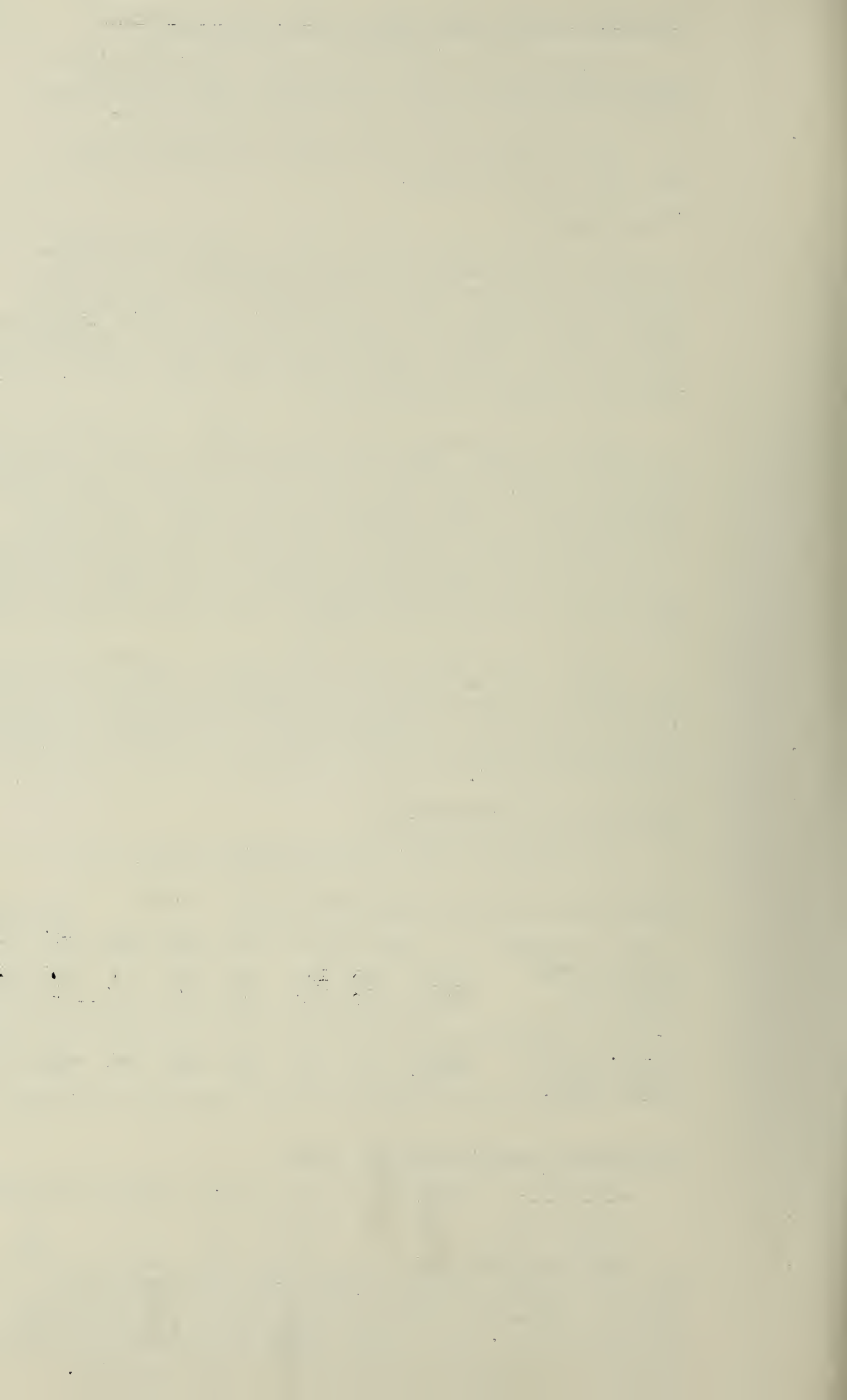
##### Diphtheria & Whooping Cough Immunisations (1961)

Year of Birth.		1961	1960	1959	1958	1957	1956	1947-
Primary imms. completed during 1961	Diph	115	189	14	11	4	31	2
	Wh/c.	115	189	14	10	3	10	1
Reinf. injections administered during 1961.	Diph.	-	8	18	17	11	142	11
	Wh/c.	-	8	17	16	6	56	7

##### Vaccination against Smallpox. (1961)

Age Group.	Under 1	1	2-4	5-14	15 or over
Vaccinations	256	10	11	9	32
Re-vaccinations	-	2	3	13	104

The Wilts. County Council, as the Local Health Authority, arranges schemes of immunisation against such infections as Smallpox, Diphtheria, Whooping Cough, Tetanus, Poliomyelitis and Tuberculosis. The actual immunisation is given by either members of the County Councils medical staff in schools or clinics or by general practitioners in their surgeries.



I am grateful to Dr. C.D.L. Lycett, County Medical Officer of Health, for the following detail:-

Completed injections during 1961

<u>Persons born</u>	<u>Second</u>	<u>Third</u>	<u>Fourth</u>
1943-1961	486	380	1048
1933-1942	137	199	-
Before 1933, but who had not reached 40 years of age	369	1242	-
Others	26	38	-
	<u>1018</u>	<u>1859</u>	<u>1048</u>

Mass Radiography.

During the period 10 - 16 October, 1961 the South Western Regional Hospital Board Mass Radiography Service, established a Mobile X-Ray Unit at Chippenham. A total of 1,911 persons presented themselves for examination with the following results:-

Active Tuberculosis. . . . . Nil  
Inactive Tuberculosis . . . . . 1

Non-Tuberculous cases

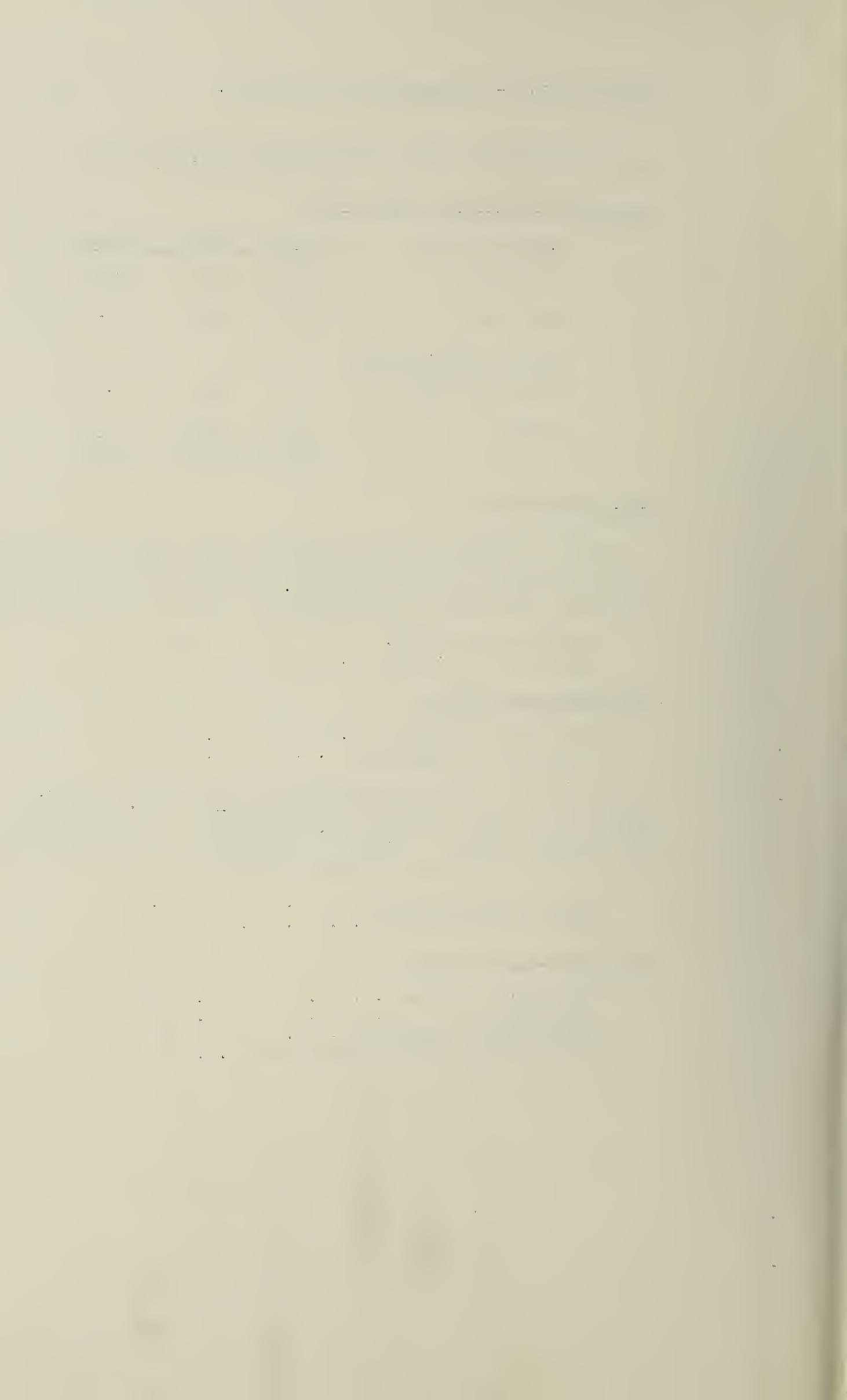
Malignant neoplasm . . . . . 1  
Bronchitis & Emphysema . . . . . 1

In addition to the above survey of the general public, arrangements were made for the Mobile X-Ray Unit to visit Westinghouse Brake & Signal Co.Ltd. during the period 19 Sep to 9 October, 1961. A total of 5020 persons volunteered for examination, with the following results:-

Active Tuberculosis . . . . . Nil.  
Inactive Tuberculosis . . . . . 1

Non-Tuberculous cases

Malignant neoplasm . . . . . 2  
Sarcoidosis . . . . . 1  
Bronchitis & Emphysema . . . . . 2  
Other significant abnormalities . . . 3





R E P O R T  
of the  
P U B L I C H E A L T H I N S P E C T O R

TO:           The Mayor, Aldermen and Members  
              of the Chippenham Town Council.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present a  
Report of the work carried out in my Department  
during the year 1961.

The tables and particulars conform  
to the Ministry's Regulations and Requirements.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

S.F. FRENCH.

Senior Public Health Inspector.



### SANITARY INSPECTION OF DISTRICT.

525 Inspections were made of 304 premises in connection with Housing and Nuisances, and as a result, 90 notices were served requiring the abatement of nuisances and housing repairs. 7 Statutory Notices were served.

Most of this work is of a routine nature, but nevertheless is important work. It is unspectacular, and is probably performed without the knowledge of most ratepayers.

Considerable difficulty is experienced in getting notices complied with which involve minor jobbing work. These prosperous times seem to have put the building trade in the position of being able to select it's work.

### HOUSING STATISTICS FOR 1961.

1. Number of New Houses and Flats erected during the year.

(a) By Local Authority -	42
(b) By Private Enterprise -	113
  
2. Inspection of dwellings during the year.

(i) Inspected for housing defects under P.H. Acts.	32
(ii) - " - " - " - Housing Acts	232
(iii) Number of dwellings found so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for habitation	3
(iv) Number of dwellings found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for habitation	74
  
3. Remedy of Defects by Informal Action.

Number of dwellings rendered fit in consequence of Informal Action	61
---	----
  
4. Action under Statutory Powers (Public Health & Housing Acts).

(a) <u>Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 &amp; 16 of Housing Act 1936 and Sections 9, 10, 12 Housing Act 1957</u>	
(i) Number of dwellings in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	NONE
(b) <u>Proceedings under Public Health Acts.</u>	
(i) Number of dwellings in respect of which formal notices were served	7
(ii) Number of dwellings rendered fit after service of formal notice	
(a) by owners	7
(b) by Local Authority in default of owners	NONE



HOUSING STATISTICS FOR 1961 (continued)(c) Proceedings under Sections 11 & 13 Housing Act. 1936 and Sections 16 & 23 Housing Act 1957.

(i)	Number of Demolition Orders made	3
(ii)	Number of houses demolished as a result of Demolition Orders	12
(iii)	Number of undertakings accepted	1
(iv)	Number of families re-housed	14
(v)	Number of persons re-housed	30
(vi)	Number of Closing Orders made	0

5. Housing Acts, 1936 and 1957 - Overcrowding.

Two cases only of overcrowding were found and these were abated as a result of informal action.

We seem to hear little of the overcrowding problem these days. This may be due to the very low statutory standard which was introduced some 26 years ago. It is obviously outdated, and, I think a revised standard should be forthcoming.

It is believed that some families may be overcrowded in local authorities' accommodation, through, among other causes, the normal growth of the families. It is proposed to make a survey of this type of accommodation early in 1962 so that the Council can give consideration to this aspect of the housing problem.

During the year it was apparent that we have in our midst quite a few coloured immigrants, and local people were beginning to wonder under what conditions these people were living. A survey was carried out and I was able to report to the Public Health Committee that not a single case of overcrowding was found and that their standards of hygiene were quite good. It did give us an opportunity too, to point out to them the legal standards and thus, save difficulties arising later.

6. Rents Act 1957.

Three Certificates of Disrepair were issued under this Act. These were later cancelled on completion of the necessary works.

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS.

The following sites were used during the year:-

Foghamshire	3	
Bath Road	1	
Derrids Lane	3	
Sheldon Road	2	
London Road	2	(temporary)
Lowden	1	

Council's Sites:

Greenway Lane	4
Bath Road	18

All the above caravans are used as dwelling-houses. Frequent inspections are made of these sites, which generally speaking, are well maintained.





The Council's Bath Road Site was enlarged during the year to take a further ten caravans. The Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act 1960, gave local authorities a firmer control, both from planning and sanitary points of view. Conditions on existing sites were subject to review, and new applicants for site licences must now first obtain planning approval.

Due regard is given to the "model Standards" with respect to the lay-out and the provision of facilities, such as Hard Standings; Fire fighting appliances; water supply and sanitation, when the issue of Site Licences is being considered.

There is still a fairly heavy demand for sites, and although local authorities are encouraged to provide sites, and given power to buy land for the purpose, many believe that the aim of public policy should be to reduce caravan-living to a minimum.

FACTORIES ACTS 1937 to 1959.

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

- PREMISES
- 1) Factories in which Secs. 1,2,3,4,&6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.
  - 2) Factories not included in (1) in which Sec.7 is enforced by the Local Authority.
  - 3) Other premises in which Sec.7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding Out-Workers' premises)

Number on Register	Number of		
	Inspns.	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
15	-	-	-
62	12	4	-
-	-	-	-
77	12	4	-



FACTORIES ACTS. (Continued)2. Cases in which defects were found.Number of cases in which defects were  
found

<u>Particulars</u>	Found	Remedied	To H. M. Inspr.	By H. M. Inspr.	Prosecutions.
Want of Cleanliness (S1)	1	1	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable Temp. (S3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate Vent. (S4)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective Drainage of floors (S6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S7)					
(a) Insufficient	1	1	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	1	1	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	1	1	-	-	-
TOTAL	4	4	-	-	-

CLEAN AIR ACT

Fifty-seven observations were made and informal action taken regarding the emission of smoke from the chimneys of industrial premises.

NOISE ABATEMENT ACT 1960

One complaint was received, to be dealt with under this new Act. It concerned noise from an ash crusher and a concrete mixer in a builders' yard, which was causing a serious nuisance to the people living in a nearby residential estate.

Goodwill and common sense prevailed. The Company concerned was approached informally and immediately sought remedial measures. Baffle walls of baled straw were constructed around both plants as an experiment and proved to be quite effective.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Disinfection was carried out in seven homes and one hospital (thirteen times) after infectious diseases. Bedding and similar articles are treated by steam or destroyed when this is considered necessary. No charge is made for fumigation or steam disinfection when this is done because of infectious disease.

78 visits of inquiry were made in connection with Infectious Diseases.



### SWIMMING POOL.

Regular samples from the swimming and paddling pools were taken during the summer months and submitted for bacteriological examination to the Public Health Laboratory Service. The samples, taken at peak loads at fortnightly intervals, are to assess the efficiency of the treatment, which is of the continuous filtration, circulation and chlorination type.

More frequent tests, to determine the residual chlorine content of the water, are carried out by the bath superintendent.

### DISEASES OF ANIMALS (WASTE FOODS) ORDER 1957.

The Council accepted delegation from the County Council of this Order. There are eight licenced premises in the Borough (six only are actually processing waste food) and these are inspected from time to time in connection with the enforcement of the Order

In March 1961, a letter was addressed to all persons holding licences reminding them of the absolute need to ensure that all waste food is properly boiled for a period of at least one hour before being fed to animals.

### PET ANIMALS ACT 1951.

Two licences were issued to keep pet shops. These premises are inspected, although the only pets sold are cage-birds, goldfish and tortoises.

### ERADICATION OF VERMIN.

Some verminous infestations were dealt with by the use of D.D.T. and Gammexane Insecticides.

In a number of cases, advice and assistance was given in connection with fly and wasp infestations.

### RODENT CONTROL.

The methods used have, on the whole, become standardised throughout the country, and are as recommended by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

Poisons used are - Zinc Phosphide, Arsenious Oxide, Warfarin, A.N.T.U., and Red Squill.

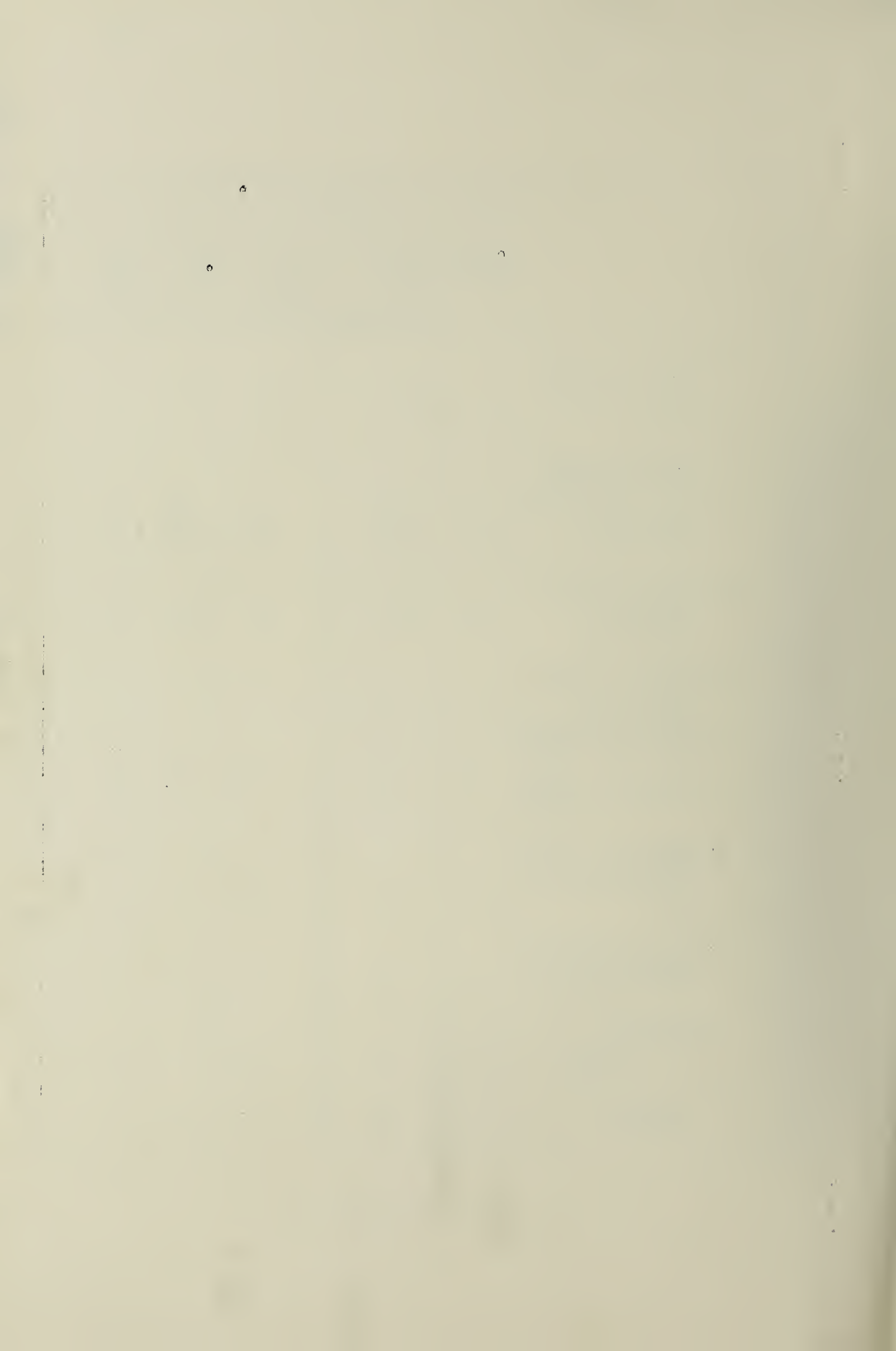
The sewers, brooks and sewage outfall works are now treated as a routine measure twice yearly, the refuse tips are closely watched and treated as often as may be necessary.

The following details are in the form required by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.





	Type of Property.				
	Non-Agricultural				Agricultural.
	Local Authy.	Dwelling Houses (incl. Cncl.Houses).	All other (incl. business premises.	Total of Cols. 1,2,3.	
1. Number of properties in L.A.'s Dist. ( Notes 1 and 2).	15	5478	1026	6519	4
2. Number of properties inspect. as a result of:-					
(a) Notification	-	46	12	58	-
(b) Survey	15	62	11	88	-
(c) Otherwise	-	262	105	367	4
3. Total inspections. carried out - including re-inspections.	98	504	187	789	8
4. Number of properties inspect. (in Sec.2.) which were found to be infested by:					
(a) Rats - Major	2	1	1	4	-
Minor	8	44	18	70	-
(b) Mice - Major	-	-	-	-	-
Minor	-	8	4	12	-
5. Number of infested properties ( in Sec.4) treated by L.A.	10	53	22	85	-
6. Total treatments carried out incl. re-treatments.	22	53	22	97	-
7. Notices:					
(b) Structural work	-	1	-	-	-
8. Block control schemes.	-	4	-	-	-



## INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

### MEAT INSPECTION

The Bacon Factory continues to maintain the heavy slaughtering of the last few years. The Wiltshire Bacon Company, during the year, slaughtered some 44763 pigs on their premises. 9561 were killed at the slaughterhouse in River Street by Messrs. Bowyers (Wiltshire Bacon), up to the time it was closed. (July).

A system of detention is operated at the Bacon Factory. Factory operatives, instructed by the Public Health Inspectors, and working under their control, examine the pigs during the course of slaughter, incising the head and offal glands. Animals which show any disease or abnormalities in carcase or organs are detained and brought to the attention of the inspector while he is engaged on routine meat inspection. This system of detention is the best that can be adopted under the circumstances, obviates full time meat inspectors at the factory and is working well in practice. All offals are inspected by Local Authority Officers before leaving the slaughterhouse.

It is anticipated that the Ministry will, in due course, be insisting on 100% inspection at this factory, in which case the Council will need to increase the qualified staff of the department.

I believe there is a strong case for a review of the system of grants for meat inspection to ensure that small authorities in the "exporting areas" are actively encouraged to maintain this vital public health service.

At the Butchers' slaughterhouse one hundred per cent meat inspection is carried out by Local Authority qualified officers.

On the 1st January 1959 the Slaughterhouse (Hygiene) Regulations 1958, and the Slaughter of Animals (Prevention of Cruelty) Regulations 1958, came into operation.

These Regulations were designed to secure the observance of sanitary and cleanly conditions in connection with the construction and operation of slaughterhouses and the handling of meat therein. They impose upon occupiers of slaughterhouses requirements as to the layout, drainage, equipment, maintenance, cleanliness, ventilation, lighting, water supply, management and personal hygiene, and provides for safeguards against the infliction of unnecessary suffering.

All three slaughterhouses have been brought up-to-date and made to comply with the new regulations.

### SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT 1958.

Twenty-six persons were licensed to slaughter animals.



CARCASSES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED  
1961.

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	Cattle excluding cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep Lambs.	Pigs.
No. killed ( if known )	1193	10	95	2871	55273
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis &amp; Cysticerci.</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	138
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	144	4	3	113	4135
Percentage of the No. inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	12%	40%	31%	3.9%	7.7%
<u>Tuberculosis only.</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	1
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	1604
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	3%
<u>Cysticercosis.</u>					
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	21	-	-	-	-
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration	21	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-

The eradication of tuberculosis from cattle and pigs is now a definite possibility in the near future.

In 1937 one pig in every 127 was condemned because of tuberculosis - in 1960 the figure was one in 9790, and in the year under review, of 55,273 pigs slaughtered, only one carcass was condemned for tuberculosis.

Of 4175 cattle slaughtered during the past five years not one was condemned because of tuberculosis.





MEAT CONDEMNED (HOME KILLED) DURING 1961.

	<u>T.</u>	<u>Cwts.</u>	<u>Drs.</u>	<u>Lbs.</u>
<u>BOVINE</u>				
12 Heads		3	1	13
92 Livers		10	1	12
26 Pt. Livers			3	14
Offal		2	0	12
Meat		1	0	2
<u>PIGS</u>				
139 Carcases	7	3	1	15
1521 Heads	8	15	2	8
62 Livers		1	2	9
Eyes/Plucks	21	11	2	15
Meat	3	15	1	19
<u>SHEEP</u>				
110 Livers		1	3	23
Other Offals				17
<u>CALVES</u>				
Meat			1	0
<hr/>				
TOTAL	42	7	2	19

CYSTICERCUS BOVIS

Routine examination of beef carcasses and organs is carried out to detect the parasite of *Cysticercus Bovis* as required by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food. *Cysticercus Bovis* is the cystic stage of *taenia saginata*, the tapeworm of man. During the year twenty-one carcasses were found to be infected, the cysts being located in the head in nine cases, and in the heart in twelve cases. Of the cysts found, twelve were viable and nine degenerated. Where infestation is localised, the part of the carcass or the organ affected is rejected as unfit for human consumption; the remainder of the carcass is placed in cold storage at a temperature not exceeding 20°F for a period of three weeks, and then released for human consumption. Failing refrigeration, the entire carcass and offal is rejected.

Method of disposal of condemned food.

All carcasses and offals found at the Bacon Factories and Slaughterhouses to be unfit for human consumption are mutilated and dyed prior to disposal to firms outside the Borough for conversion into animal food and fertilisers. Tinned and other packaged foodstuffs are collected and disposed of on the Council's Refuse Tip.

MISCELLANEOUS GOODS.

1115 lbs Bacon.	67 lbs Cooked Ham.
438 lbs Tinned Meats.	14 Lbs Jam.
72 Lbs Marshmallows.	111 Tins Vegetables.
13 Tins Fish.	181 Tins Fruit.
67 Tins Milk.	7 Tins Soups, Coffee etc.
31 lbs Cereals.	



FOOD PREMISES.

Inspections made to supervise the preparation, handling or storage of food in shops, restaurants, bakehouses, markets and factory canteens totalled 721.

45 Notices were served for contraventions of the Food Hygiene Regulations. Many of these require the maintenance or replacement of the necessary equipment.

The following list shows the matters with which these Notices were concerned:-

Wash-hand basins, absence of hot water.  
Locker accommodation for outdoor clothing.  
Defective or dirty condition of walls, floors, ceilings, woodwork, equipment and working surfaces.  
Impervious surfaces to counters and tables.  
First Aid Kits, provision and maintenance of.  
Bins; provision of properly covered bins for waste products.  
Delivery vehicles and mobile shops.  
Handwashing notices.

Every opportunity is taken to instruct personnel on the frequent and intelligent use of equipment and of the principles of hygiene.

The policy of gaining the objective of legislation by discussion and persuasion rather than enforcement at law, is followed and is, I think, producing good results.

Traders generally are co-operating willingly in meeting the problems which have to be tackled. There can be no doubt that the selling power of hygiene has been appreciated by the trade, and everywhere can be seen new materials, with an emphasis on ease of maintenance and cleansing. Refrigerated cabinets and glass covered display counters are evidence of the progress being made in the improvement of food premises.

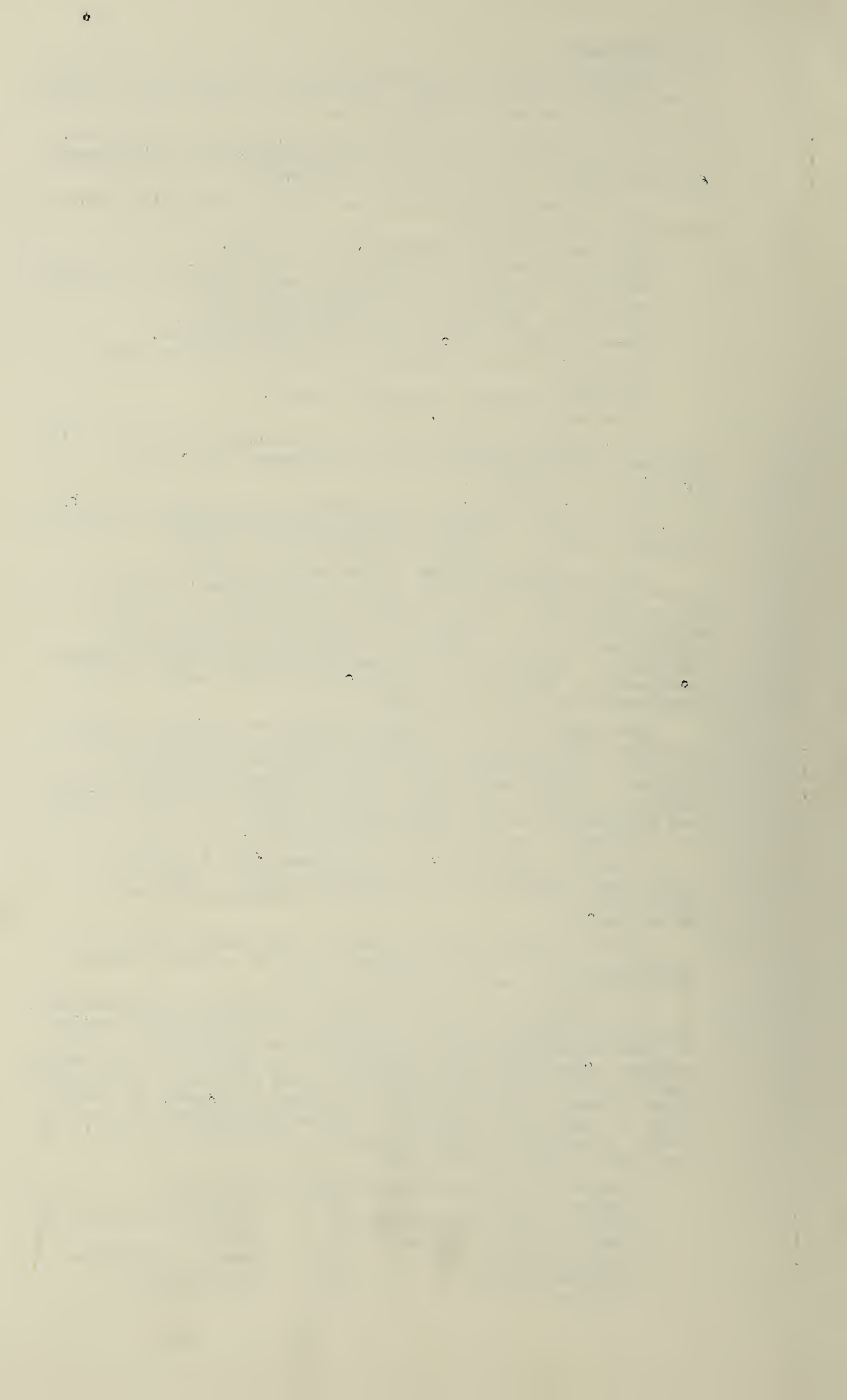
The public too, I am quite sure, are becoming more and more "food hygiene" minded. They can help by ceasing to trade at shops failing to keep up good standards of hygiene. Furthermore, they can be of some help if they will bring their complaints to me. These particular points are emphasised in the talks which I am often asked to give to the Womens' organisations of the town.

Constant supervision is exercised over the stalls retailing foodstuffs in the weekly market. Visits are also made to the food stalls which accompany the show ground people.

Litter baskets are provided by the Council in the vicinity of the fried fishshops and milk vending machines in an effort to keep the streets tidy.

The Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, have continued the practice of issuing to local authorities food hygiene codes of practice. The earlier codes dealt with hygiene in the Meat and Fish trades and the most recent deals with Poultry Dressing and Packing. These codes, of course, have no statutory force, but they serve a very useful purpose. Copies are distributed to the trades concerned in the Borough to supplement the visits of the Public Health Inspectors.

Number of food premises by type of business -			
General Grocery	45	Butchers	17
Hotels, Cafes, Restaurants	14	Licensed Premises	28
Bakers, Confectioners	9	Sweets	13
Fish Fryers	5	Fruit & Vegetables	9
Slaughterhouses	3	Fishmongers	4
Dairies	5		





Preparation or manufacture of sausages, potted, pressed, pickled or preserved food	21
Manufacture and sale of ice-cream	1
Sale of ice-cream	56

#### MILK AND DAIRIES.

Number of Registered Dairies	8
Number of Registered Distributors	13
Number of 'T.T' Dealer's Licences	5
Number of pasteuriser's/steriliser's Licences	2
Numbers of Dealer's Pre-packed Licences	15
Number of samples submitted to the Public Health Laboratory -	
Raw T.T.	25
Pasteurised	35
Sterilised	7
Biologicals	8
Number of inspections made during the year	42

Of the seventy-five samples of milks taken, two raw T.T samples failed the standard required by the Milk (Special Designation) Regulations 1960.

Sample failures of raw milk are first investigated at the distributing dairy to clarify whether the producer or the distributor is at fault. If a farm investigation is called for, then notification is given to the Milk Regulations Officer of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

As a check on the efficiency of milk bottle cleansing, nine sets were submitted for bacteriological examination. All were satisfactory.

The Council accepted delegation from the County Council of their duties under the Milk (Special Designation) Regulations 1960, as from the 17th October, 1961.

I feel I must again draw attention to the difficulties experienced at the Bottle Washing Plants, due to bottles being misused before being returned to the dairy. It is still necessary to advise the immediate rinsing of empty bottles, the prompt return of bottles and the non-use of them for purposes other than as milk containers.

Milk from refrigerated machines has become very popular. Four of these machines are installed in the town and thirteen in a Works. The disposable cartons are filled and hygienically sealed in the dairy. This system overcomes the difficulties experienced by the fouling of milk bottles in heavy industrial factories. The machines are cleansed and replenished daily. Regular samples are taken for bacteriological examination.

The Borough is, of course, in a specified area. All milk now sold by retail must be "specially designated" milk, (that is pasteurised, sterilised, or tuberculin tested milk).

#### ICE-CREAM.

Number of premises registered and used for manufacture and sale	1
Number of premises registered for sale only	56
Number of samples	83
Inspection of premises	86

One sample of a locally made ice-cream proved to be unsatisfactory (Grade 3). A thorough investigation at the manufacturer's premises revealed the fault in the assembly of a new plant. Follow-up samples proved to be satisfactory.

The fact that all the other ice-cream samples fell within Grade 1. is an indication that the ice-cream trade is now producing a very safe product from the bacteriological point of view.







